

FACT SHEET

Decision
Ready Claims

The **Decision Ready Claim (DRC) Program** is the fastest way to get your claim processed. With the DRC Program, you can get a decision on your claim within 30 days when you work with an accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO). Your VSO will help you gather and submit all relevant records and evidence, including federal and medical records and Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs), and will request your VA claim exam, so your claim is ready for VA to make a decision when you submit it.



What types of claims are eligible for the DRC Program?

Currently, the DRC Program is limited to compensation claims for increase. The disability must already be service-connected, and you must have medical evidence to show the condition has gotten worse since your last rating.

You cannot file your claim through the DRC Program if you currently have another disability claim pending, if you have an appeal pending for the condition you want an increase for, or if your claim is related to pension or special monthly compensation (SMC). To see a full list of exclusions that would remove your claim from the DRC Program, go to www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/drc.asp.

VA is working to expand the DRC Program to include more types of claims. Check back with your Veterans Service Organization (VSO) to see if any updates have been made to the DRC Program.

How do I file a claim under the DRC Program?

You must work with an accredited VSO to file a claim through the DRC Program. You can find an accredited VSO near you and appoint them to serve as your representative free of charge by going to www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/vso-search.

Your accredited VSO will help you determine if the DRC Program is right for your claim. They are fully trained on the DRC Program and can serve as a qualified advocate for you.

What information do I need to submit so that my claim is decision-ready?

Bring copies of your federal records, medical records, completed Disability Benefits Questionnaires (DBQs), and any other supporting evidence when you meet with your VSO. Your VSO can also help you gather any medical information you are missing to make sure your claim is complete.

As part of the DRC Program, VSOs can now quickly request a VA claim exam for you, also sometimes called a Compensation & Pension (C&P) exam, before you submit your claim. Providing all relevant evidence when you submit your DRC allows VA to process your claim faster.

For more information about the DRC Program, go to www.benefits.va.gov/compensation/drc.asp or call 1-800-827-1000 (toll-free).

VA



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